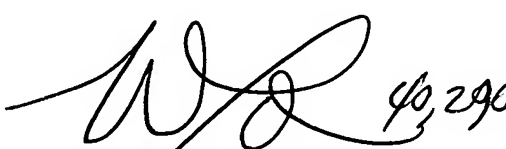




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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF			Docket No. SON-3117
In re Application of: Haruo Yoshida et al.			
Application No. 10/574,945-Conf. #7327	Filing Date April 7, 2006	Examiner A. Ruiz	Group Art Unit 2169
Invention: FILE MANAGING APPARATUS, FILE MANAGING METHOD, FILE MANAGING METHOD PROGRAM, AND RECORDING MEDIUM THAT RECORDS FILE MANAGING METHOD PROGRAM			
<u>TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS:</u>			
Transmitted herewith is the Appeal Brief in this application, with respect to the Notice of Appeal filed: <u>July 10, 2008</u> .			
The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is <u>\$ 510.00</u> .			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity			
<input type="checkbox"/> A petition for extension of time is also enclosed.			
The fee for the extension of time is _____.			
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of the fee to Deposit Account No. <u>18-0013</u> . This sheet is submitted in duplicate.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>18-0013</u> . This sheet is submitted in duplicate.			
 _____ Ronald P. Kananen/Christopher M. Tobin Attorney Reg. No. : 24,104/40,290 RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC 1233 20th Street, N.W. Suite 501 Washington, DC 20036 (202) 955-3750		Dated: <u>September 9, 2008</u>	

Application No. 10/574,945
Appeal Brief



Docket No.: SON-3117

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Haruo Yoshida et al.

Application No.: 10/574,945

Confirmation No.: 7327

Filed: April 7, 2006

Art Unit: 2169

For: FILE MANAGING APPARATUS, FILE
MANAGING METHOD, FILE MANAGING
METHOD PROGRAM, AND RECORDING
MEDIUM THAT RECORDS FILE
MANAGING METHOD PROGRAM

Examiner: A. Ruiz

APPEAL BRIEF

MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is an Appeal Brief under 37 C.F.R. § 41.37 appealing the Final Office Action of the Examiner dated March 10, 2008. This Brief is also in furtherance of the Notice of Appeal previously filed on July 10, 2008 along with a Request for Pre-Appeal Brief Panel Review. A Panel Decision dated August 5, 2008 allowed this matter to proceed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

09/10/2008 ALXND AF1 00000030 180013 10574945
01 FC:1402 510.00 DA

This brief contains items under the following headings as required by 37 C.F.R. § 41.37 and M.P.E.P. § 1206:

I. Real Party In Interest

- II. Related Appeals and Interferences
- III. Status of Claims
- IV. Status of Amendments
- V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter
- VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal
- VII. Argument
- VIII. Claims
- IX. Evidence
- X. Related Proceedings

- Appendix A. Claims
- Appendix B. Additional Evidence (none)
- Appendix C. Related Proceedings (none)

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest for this appeal is Sony Corporation, of Tokyo, Japan. An assignment of all rights in the present application to Sony Corporation was executed by the inventors and recorded by the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 017796, Frame 0461.

II. RELATED APPEALS, INTERFERENCES, AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

There are no other appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in this appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

A. Current Status of Claims

A complete listing of the claims with corresponding status is provided as follows:

Claims 1-14. (Rejected).

B. Claims On Appeal

Appellant hereby appeals the final rejection of claims 1-14.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

A Non-Final Office Action rejecting claims 1-14 was mailed on October 31, 2007 and an Amendment responsive thereto was filed on December 4, 2007 requesting reconsideration of the rejected claims. A Final Office Action rejecting claims 1-14 was mailed on March 10, 2008. A Request for Reconsideration was then filed on May 9, 2008, and an Advisory Action dated July 10, 2008 maintained the grounds of rejection. Appellant then filed a Notice of Appeal and Request for Pre-Appeal Brief Panel Review on July 10, 2008. A Decision on Panel Review dated August 5, 2008 allowed the matter to proceed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The following description is for illustrative purposes and is not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

Independent claim 1 recites: [a] file managing apparatus (*e.g.*, FIG. 1, p. 8, line 17 through p. 22, line 1) for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files to be managed;

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed (*e.g.*, FIG. 2, p. 22, line 2 through p. 26, line 16);

wherein said file managing apparatus records a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, and reorganizes said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 27, line 7 through p. 28, line 11; p. 28, line 12 through p. 30, line 14; FIG. 4, p. 32, line 16 through p. 33, line 19; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22; FIG. 5, p. 46, line 17 through p. 48, line 11); and

wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 30, line 15 through p. 31, line 9; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22).

Independent claim 12 recites: [a] file managing method for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files to be managed, said file managing method including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed (*e.g.*, FIG. 2, p. 22, line 2 through p. 26, line 16);

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 27, line 7 through p. 28, line 11; p. 28, line 12 through p. 30, line 14; FIG. 4, p. 32, line 16 through p. 33, line 19; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22; FIG. 5, p. 46, line 17 through p. 48, line 11); and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to

indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 30, line 15 through p. 31, line 9; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22).

Independent claim 13 recites: [a] file managing method program for causing a computer to execute a procedure for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files, said procedure including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed (*e.g.*, FIG. 2, p. 22, line 2 through p. 26, line 16);

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 27, line 7 through p. 28, line 11; p. 28, line 12 through p. 30, line 14; FIG. 4, p. 32, line 16 through p. 33, line 19; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22; FIG. 5, p. 46, line 17 through p. 48, line 11); and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 30, line 15 through p. 31, line 9; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22).

Independent claim 14 recites: [a] recording medium having recorded thereon a file managing method program for causing a computer to execute a procedure for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files, said procedure including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed (*e.g.*, FIG. 2, p. 22, line 2 through p. 26, line 16);

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 27, line 7 through p. 28, line 11; p. 28, line 12 through p. 30, line 14; FIG. 4, p. 32, line 16 through p. 33, line 19; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22; FIG. 5, p. 46, line 17 through p. 48, line 11); and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file (*e.g.*, FIG. 3, p. 30, line 15 through p. 31, line 9; FIG. 1, p. 40 line 19 through p. 42, line 22).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The issues presented for consideration in this appeal, with separate arguments as noted in the following sections, are as follows:

Whether the Examiner erred in rejecting claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0161616 A1 to Um et al. ("Um") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,659,742 to Beattie et al. ("Beattie").

These issues are discussed in the following section, with subsections corresponding to the separate arguments.

VII. ARGUMENT

VII.A Introduction.

In the Final Office Action of March 10, 2008, the Examiner erred in rejecting claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Um in view of Beattie. Consistent with the grouping of claims in the following sections, these rejections are variously deficient as noted in the separate arguments.

VII.B The Um reference discloses a technique for placing references to files into groups, with no disclosure or suggestion of consolidating index file entries into a single movie file as claimed by Appellant.

Appellant's claim 1 recites: *[a] file managing apparatus for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files to be managed;*

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed;

wherein said file managing apparatus records a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, and reorganizes said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file; and

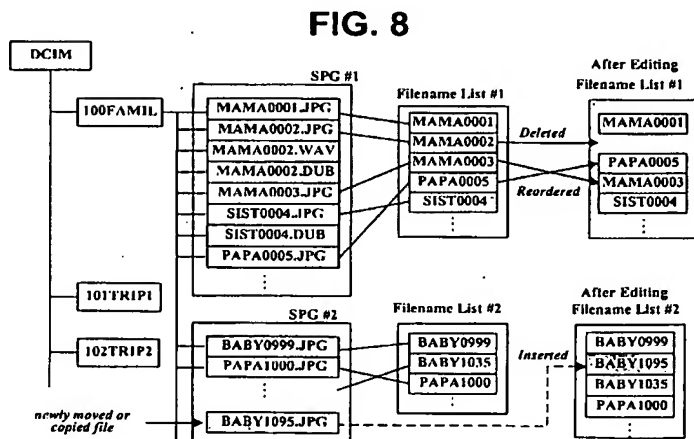
wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file.

These claimed features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Um. Um discloses a technique for organizing an index file by allowing the index files to be variously assigned to groups according to a filename list so that the particular groups can be easily managed separately from the

other groups. The Um system allows the user to easily add or remove a still picture from a given group, without removing the still picture from the other groups that it resides in. This ostensibly allows improved management of the user's still pictures. This is quite different from Appellant's claimed invention, which has to do with consolidating the index entries for plural still picture files into a single movie file, rather than providing organizational listings of the picture files.

To explain, the Um system allows a user to put a given picture into multiple different groups. Then, for example, a slide show of each group could contain the given picture, but the given picture could be added and removed from the group without destroying the remaining membership of the group.

This is clearly evident in FIG. 8 of Um. For example, a new picture "BABY1095" may be added to filename list #2. Once this picture is in this filename list #2, that and the other pictures may be variously sequenced. There is no deletion of the index file for the picture, as the Um technique is merely organizing pictures into a file list.



In Um, there is no deletion of the index file nor is there any impetus to do so, since Um has nothing whatsoever to do with consolidating numerous index file entries into a movie file. For example, the file "MAMA0002" may be removed from filename list #1 in the example shown in FIG. 8 of Um. It is clear that Um discloses an organizational tool that allows the still image files to

be assigned to any number of groups. These groups are not movie files. Rather, they are merely a way of organizing the still image files.

Um thus fails to disclose or suggest “*wherein said file managing apparatus records a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, and reorganizes said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file,*” or “*wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file,*” as claimed by Appellant. In Um, (1) there is no reorganization of the index files into a single movie file, (2) nor is there any deleting of the index file entries for those still picture files grouped into the movie file, (3) nor is there any setting of a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file in order to delete the index file, (4) nor is there registration of an entry include extract information about the movie file into the index file.

All of these features are absent from Um, and the ordinarily skilled artisan would have absolutely no inclination to include them in Um.

Appellant has asked for a clear identification of an example of the movie file in Um. The Final Office Action vaguely references claim 2 and the Abstract, but these merely restate what is described above, which is that Um merely organizes pictures with the filename list. The Action also states “[t]he STREAM being the movie file”. This only further illustrates the impropriety of the rejection. STREAM merely refers to a directory in the DVR directory. This includes stream files (*.m2ts) containing actual motion-picture data stream packets. There is absolutely no mention of any kind of grouping still picture indices into a single movie file in Um. Additionally, even if one presumes that STREAM is a movie file, there is never any mention in Um of grouping still picture indices into a single STREAM file.

In the Advisory Action, attached comments seemed to suggest that FIG. 2 of Um disclosed such features. This figure illustrates a standard DVR directory structure, which is updated

to include the invention of Um in the dotted line portion. This portion clearly indicates that the organization of the still image files is in the STILLINF directory as a .stli filename. As clearly stated in Um, this is a still-picture information file that is stored under the directory STILLINF as also shown in FIG. 5. It is not a movie file. The .stli files of Um contain the filenames lists as shown in the figure and as previously explained to the Examiner. Thus, again, Um does not disclose grouping the plurality of still picture files “into a single movie file.”

VII.C The deficiencies of the Um reference extend beyond the characterization in the Final Office Action, and the Beattie reference clearly fails to remedy these deficiencies.

The Action states Um does not disclose “deleted from said index file.” However, this is clearly an over-simplification of the deficiencies of Um. As noted above, there are various features (at least features (1)-(4) noted above) that are absent from the reference. Also, with regard to deleting the index file, not only does Um not disclose deleting the index file even generally, it also does not disclose the particular fashion in which deletion is carried out, specifically, “*wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file,*” as claimed by Appellant.

Beattie does not remedy the deficiencies of Um. Beattie discloses a method for storing multimedia information in an information retrieval system. Beattie discloses a database that stores image and text information that can both be retrieved in response to a single query. The passage cited in the Action (31:26-39) merely speaks to the management of an index table, and how the table is updated when image and text information is deleted from the database.

Beattie is clearly even further removed from Appellant’s claimed invention than Um. Beattie, having nothing to do with consolidating still picture index files into a single movie file, offers no pertinent disclosure to the noted deficiencies of Um. The mere disclosure of the management of an index table in no way discloses “*wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting*

a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file,” as claimed by Appellant.

Thus, whether alone or in any combination, in Um and Beattie, (1) there is no reorganization of the index files into a single movie file, (2) there is no deleting of the index file entries for those still picture files grouped into the movie file, (3) there is no setting of a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file in order to delete the index file, and (4) there is no registration of an entry include extract information about the movie file into the index file.

Since various features are absent from even the combination of Um and Beattie, Appellant submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been presented for independent claim 1.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Appellant submits that claim 1 is patentably distinct from the relied upon references, as are independent claims 12-14 for similar reasons. Dependent claims 2-11 are patentably distinct for their incorporation of the features recited in the independent claims as well as there separately recited patentably distinct features.

VII.D Um and Beattie also fail to disclose or suggest dependent claim 3.

Appellant’s dependent claim 3 recites: *[t]he file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said movie file is a self-contained type file which has real data representative of picture data related to said plurality of still picture files and which offers the corresponding still pictures based on said real data;*

wherein said file managing apparatus forms said movie file by successively acquiring said picture data from said plurality of still picture files; and

wherein, upon deleting from said index file the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file, said file managing apparatus also deletes said plurality of still picture files.

Um offers absolutely no disclosure or suggestion of these claimed features. As recited in claim 3, the file managing apparatus forms said movie file by successively acquired picture data. In conjunction with that, it deletes the entries in the index file for the still picture files and also deletes the still picture file. Um discloses nothing remotely like these claimed features. Um, again, merely organizes files into groups. There is no formation of a movie file using the actual still picture files.

The reference to FIG. 4 and the “SPG” merely provides an example of listing files in a group. This is not an example of forming a movie file from still pictures. As noted, Beattie offers no disclosure of any kind regarding the particulars of Appellant’s claimed invention and clearly does not disclose these claimed features as well. As the combination of references clearly fails to disclose the claimed features, a *prima facie* case of obviousness remains absent from the record.

VII.E Um and Beattie also fail to disclose or suggest dependent claims 4 and 5.

By way of example, Appellant’s dependent claim 4 recites: ... *wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries of thumbnail images representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;*

wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said thumbnail images representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with said still picture files so as to form groups of real data including the data about said thumbnail images in said movie file; and

wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said thumbnail images representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

The Action refers to the Abstract of Um for alleged disclosure of these claimed features, but there is no apparent description of any kind therein regarding the above-recited features. At best, Um may store thumbnails in some fashion in the directory structure. This, however, in no way discloses acquiring the thumbnail data and forming it into the movie file, nor does it disclose deleting the entries of the thumbnail images, both as claimed by Appellant. Once again, Beattie also offers no mention of any kind regarding thumbnail images, forming the movie file, or deleting the

particular entries as claimed by Appellant. A *prima face* case of obviousness is thus also absent from the record with regard to these claimed features.

Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests reversal of the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Um in view of Beattie.

VIII. CLAIMS

A copy of the claims involved in the present appeal is attached hereto as Appendix A.

IX. EVIDENCE

No evidence pursuant to §§ 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132, or additional evidence entered by or relied upon by the Examiner is being submitted.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS

No related proceedings are referenced in section II above, or copies of decisions in related proceedings are not provided.

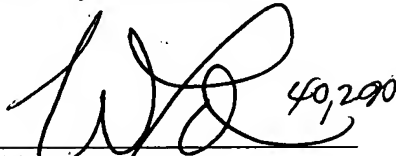
Conclusion

The claims are considered allowable for the same reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Reversal of the Examiner's decision is respectfully requested.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

By  40,290

Ronald P. Karanen

Registration No.: 24,104

Christopher M. Tobin

Registration No.: 40,290

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

Correspondence Customer Number: 23353

Attorney for Appellant

APPENDIX A - claims

1. A file managing apparatus for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files to be managed;

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed;

wherein said file managing apparatus records a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file, and reorganizes said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file; and

wherein the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file are deleted from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while an entry including extract information about said movie file is registered into said index file.

2. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said movie file is an external reference type file which offers the corresponding still pictures in reference to said plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium; and

wherein said file managing apparatus forms said movie file so that said movie file points to said plurality of still picture files.

3. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said movie file is a self-contained type file which has real data representative of picture data related to said plurality of still picture files and which offers the corresponding still pictures based on said real data;

wherein said file managing apparatus forms said movie file by successively acquiring said picture data from said plurality of still picture files; and

wherein, upon deleting from said index file the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file, said file managing apparatus also deletes said plurality of still picture files.

4. The file managing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries of thumbnail images representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;

wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said thumbnail images representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with said still picture files so as to form groups of real data including the data about said thumbnail images in said movie file; and

wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said thumbnail images representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

5. The file managing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries of thumbnail images representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;

wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said thumbnail images representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with the picture data so as to form groups of real data including a series of the data about said thumbnail images in said movie file; and

wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said thumbnail images representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

6. The file managing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries in text of titles representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;

wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said titles representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with said still

picture files so as to form groups of real data including the data about said titles in said movie file;
and

wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said titles representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

7. The file managing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said extract information is organized into groups by attribute of said extract information so that entries in text of titles representative of said still picture files are formed in said index file;

wherein said file managing apparatus acquires data about said titles representative of said plurality of still picture files from said index file and associates the acquired data with the picture data so as to form groups of real data including the data about said titles in said movie file; and

wherein said file managing apparatus deletes the entries of said titles representative of said still picture files recorded in said index file.

8. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of still picture files associated with the reorganization of said index file belong to a particular folder.

9. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the number of entries in said index file is determined and said index file is reorganized based on the determination result.

10. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the number of entries determined in said index file is presented to a user and said index file is reorganized in response to user instruction.

11. The file managing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein re-registration of said still picture files is carried out in such a manner that the entry including the extract information about said movie file is deleted from said index file while the entries including the extract information about said plurality of still picture files are registered into said index file.

12. A file managing method for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files to be managed, said file managing method including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file,

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed;

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file; and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file.

13. A file managing method program for causing a computer to execute a procedure for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files, said procedure including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file,

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed;

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file; and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to

indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file.

14. A recording medium having recorded thereon a file managing method program for causing a computer to execute a procedure for managing files recorded on a recording medium which has an index file recorded as a series of entries including blocks of extract information derived from and corresponding to said files, said procedure including the steps of:

recording a still picture file in such a manner that an entry including extract information about the still picture file is registered into said index file,

wherein said index file includes a plurality of files into which data including the extract information is divided by attribute and the plurality of files includes a property file having data representative of attributes of said files to be managed;

reorganizing said index file in such a manner that a plurality of still picture files recorded on said recording medium are grouped into a single movie file; and

deleting the entries corresponding to said plurality of still picture files grouped into said movie file from said index file by setting a valid-invalid information as invalid in the property file to indicate that the corresponding extract information is invalid, while registering an entry including extract information about said movie file into said index file.

APPENDIX B – ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

None.

APPENDIX C – RELATED PROCEEDINGS

None.